

# City of Portland

Portland, Michigan

## Minutes of the City Council Meeting

Held on Monday, April 20, 2020

Via Zoom Meeting ID# 952 4912 1427

Pursuant to Michigan Governor's Executive Orders 2020-15 and 2020-21

Present: Mayor Barnes, Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck, Council Member Fitzsimmons, Johnston and Sheehan; City Manager Gorman; City Clerk Miller

Guests: Kathy Parsons

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Mayor Barnes with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Johnston, to approve the Proposed Agenda as presented.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Fitzsimmons, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

There was no public comment.

Under City Manager Report, City Manager Gorman stated the City is still operating under emergency operations due to the Coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic. The lobby and drive thru at City Hall remain closed but residents can still use the drop box, mail, phone and email services. DPW crews have been doing brush and leaf pickup on a limited basis in order to protect the integrity of the storm drains. Residents are encouraged to self-haul to the appropriate piles at the DPW complex as they are able.

The Grand River Avenue Small Urban Project from near the Family Farm Home to Rowe Ave. has been rebid as the first round of bids came back significantly higher than expected. With some revisions to the scope of the project the second round of bids has come back within the range previously expected at about \$537,000.00. Construction on the project is expected to begin late summer/early fall with completion in October 2020.

The Grand River Avenue Bridge Maintenance project is expected to be let for bids in July with expected project commencement late summer/early fall.

The Safe Routes to School project is also expected to be let for bids in July. There has been a lot of work going on behind the scenes to ensure this project stays on target.

The Bridge Street Realignment Project is allowed under the Governor's Executive Order and is underway. Cook Brothers Excavating began construction on the project this morning. They are hopeful the project will be complete within a couple of weeks.

City Manager Gorman noted that under the Governor’s Executive Order restricting individuals from congregating and traveling between residences the Police Department is required to respond to complaints and make referrals to the Ionia County Prosecutor as necessary.

Under New Business, the Council considered Resolution 20-24 to approve the Ambulance Services Agreements and the Care Plan Membership Agreement Form.

City Manager Gorman noted the per capita rate to the governmental entities has been raised to \$13.00 as it has been many years since they have seen an increase. He further noted that he, the Ambulance Director and Finance Officer met with the entities to explain the operational details and the need to increase the rate.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Sheehan, to approve Resolution 20-24 approving, authorizing, and directing the Mayor and Clerk to sign Ambulance Services Agreements with Danby Township, Portland Township, Westphalia Township, Orange Township, Lyons Township, the Village of Westphalia, the Village of Pewamo, and Sebewa Township and Approving the Care Plan Membership Agreement Form.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 20-25 to set a Public Hearing on the proposed Fiscal Year 2020-2021 budget for May 4, 2020 at 7:00 P.M.

Motion by Johnston, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 20-25 setting a Public Hearing on the budget proposed for Fiscal Year 2020-2021.

Yeas: Johnston, Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 20-26 approving a compensation adjustment for the Board of Light and Power.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 20-27 to approve Michigan Pavement Markings LLC’s bid for 2020 street painting in the amount of \$17,877.50.

Motion by Sheehan, supported by Johnston, to approve Resolution 20-27 approving Michigan Pavement Markings LLC’s bid for 2020 street painting.

Yeas: Sheehan, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Motion by Johnston, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the Minutes and Synopsis from the Regular City Council Meeting on April 6, 2020, payment of invoices in the amount of \$132,922.86 and payroll in the amount of \$106,235.63 for a total of \$239,158.49. There were no purchase orders over \$5,000.00.

Yeas: Johnston, Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Under City Manager Comments, City Manager Gorman thanked City staff for the exceptional job they are doing despite these unprecedented circumstances.

City Manager Gorman commented on the Goodwill donation dilemma that took on a life its own on social media. Individuals have been leaving donations outside the doors of Goodwill despite the fact that they are not open or accepting donations at this time leaving an unsightly mess. City Manager Gorman asked residents to have patience with Goodwill as they try to deal with the situation.

Under Council Comments, Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck reminded residents that there is no burning throughout the State of Michigan at this time unless fires are contained in a burning ring.

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by VanSlambrouck, to adjourn the regular meeting.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

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James E. Barnes, Mayor

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Monique I. Miller, City Clerk